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of the
South Vietnam Liberation National Front

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On the occasion of

March 8th, 1966

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

FIFTH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTH VIETNAM LIBERATION WOMEN'S UNION

THE SOUTH VIETNAM LIBERATION WOMEN'S UNION TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION

Berlin

Dear friends,

The International Women's Day this year coincides with the fifth anniversary of our Union which, since its foundation, has set for itself the task of rallying around it all patriotic women of South Vietnam to struggle together with the rest of the Vietnamese people against the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys so as to achieve independence, democracy, peace and neutrality of South Vietnam with a view to the reunification of our Fatherland.

Over the past eleven or more years, especially since the birth of our Union, the South Vietnamese women have, under the glorious banner of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation, played a remarkable role in the efforts of the entire people and have recorded important successes during a courageous struggle, thus making an active contribution to the world women's movement and the great struggle of the peoples of the world for independence, democracy, social progress and the defence of peace.

The historic Day of March 8 this year bears a particularly significance. It comes at a time when, in face of their repeated defeats and being driven into further defensive and isolation, the U.S. imperialists and their flunkeys persist in intensifying and expanding their cruel war of aggression in our country, when the women and other people of South Vietnam continue marching forward with a grim determination to liberate their land and frustrate all U.S. plans for a new military adventure camouflaged behind the smoke-screen of "search for peace." March 8 will be for us an occasion to demonstrate our immense forces we have thrown into our powerful struggle against U.S. aggression and for the enhancement of the solidarity of women all over the world. It is an occasion to review the valuable lessons we have drawn from our own struggle and the world women's movement, develop our successes in all fields and deploy still bigger efforts in the fierce but certainly victorious battles in the period to come. It is also an occasion for the women of the world, including the American women, to give the commemorative Day a rich and practical content including the enhancement of solidarity with the women and other people of South Vietnam, and the increase of assistance accorded to the latter's just struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

In this spirit and in conformity with the noble traditions of the March 8 struggle, we allow ourselves to propose the following points by way of contribution to the general

of the W.I.D.F. and that of the
izations of all countries :
nificance to the support given
en and other people of South
Vietnam by making the celebrations of March 8 this year an occasion to enhance solidarity with them, to accord to their struggle a still more active and resolute support till their final victory through most varied actions such as sending petitions, organizing conferences, meetings and demonstrations, sending protest letters and cables to the Johnson administration, raising funds, collecting medicaments, medical appliances etc... for the benefits of the South Vietnamese women and children, etc...

— To denounce and condemn the continued dispatch of U.S. troops to South Vietnam by Washington to intensify its aggressive war, and its increasing use of napalm, toxic gas and chemicals, B-52 strategic bombers and other means of mass extermination to massacre women and children on an ever larger scale, its application of the "scorched earth" policy of "burn all, destroy all and kill all" ; to lay bare the fallacious "search for peace" campaign launched by the Johnson administration to cover up its scheme of intensifying its cruel aggressive war in our country.

— To call on women, wives and sisters in the United States of America, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines to wage an energetic struggle aimed at preventing their respective governments from sending their sons, husbands or brothers to South Vietnam to serve as cannon fodder for the U.S. imperialist aggressors and die a senseless death in the place of the American imperialist aggressors.

— To appeal to the peace, freedom and justice-loving women and other people throughout the world and persuade them to struggle by all means to demand relentlessly through a large mass movement the end of the U.S. dirty war of aggression in South Vietnam, the absolute respect and strict and faithful implementation of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam, the withdrawal of troops and arms of the U.S. and its satellites from South Vietnam and the dismantling of the U.S. bases installed in our territory in order to let the South Vietnamese people to settle their own affairs by themselves.

— To propose to different national organizations of women in various countries that they should send messages of congratulations and support to the South Vietnam Liberation Women's Union on the occasion of March 8, 1966, the fifth anniversary of its foundation, etc...

To put into effect our suggestions, it would be desirable that the W.I.D.F. Secretariat work out concrete programs for different national organizations and provide them with documents — books, newspapers and photos — on South Vietnam.

Please accept, dear friends, our sincere thanks and our warmest salutations of solidarity and victory.

February 20, 1966
The Executive Committee
of the South Vietnam Liberation Women's Union

OPEN LETTER

FROM THE SOUTH VIETNAM LIBERATION WOMEN'S UNION TO AMERICAN WOMEN ON THE OCCASION OF MARCH 8TH, INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AND 5TH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTH VIETNAM L. W. U.

Dear friends,

From this side of the Pacific, we have daily been following and are well informed of the struggles which you and the American people as a whole are waging against the aggression of the U.S. government in South Vietnam.

At this moment we can well picture to ourselves the sight of pram-pushing American women in the "peace marches", of our American women friends who held day-long pickets in front of the U.S. Congress Hall and of thousands of Americans signing to letters and petitions urging the U.S. government to stop its aggressive war in South Vietnam. What an emotion and admiration we felt when learning of the sublim self-sacrifices for justice of Mrs Helga Alice Herz, Norman Morrison, Roger Laporte and Celene Jankowski ! The flame kindled by their self-burnings has become a torch blazing the truth and denouncing the war acts of the U.S. government in South Vietnam. Defying repression and terror, you have lent us support in varied forms with your warmest feelings and your pride in the fighting spirit of the historic March 8th, 1899 of the women in Chicago.

We are deeply moved at these noble gestures of yours and we do hope that our sincere thanks will cross the Pacific to reach you, the zealous defenders of freedom and justice.

Like us, you have your families, your husbands and sons, your brothers and friends to whom you are dearly attached. Like us, you would wish them to live in peace to enjoy a happy family life. Like us, you have your Motherland which you love and on which you pride yourselves. We are sure you will never sit with folded arms and watch your country subjected to aggression or partition as is the case of ours at present. We are also certain that none of you want the name of your country

besmeared by your government which is sending troops to trample underfoot the independence, sovereignty and peace of the people of another country. These sentiments you have spoken out in your familiar song "Rain Bow" :

"If I were a golden thread and a little needle.
I'll weave the innocence of the child...
The imnensity of the mother's fecundity...
And mankind's love for peace"

Dear friends,

The beautiful and peaceful image conjured up by this song is also our dream which, alas, can in no way be materialized in this southern part of our country now being drowned in a sea of flames.

Over the past 11 years, the 17th parallel, the temporary demarcation line between the northern and southern part of our country, has been transformed by the U.S. government and the administration rigged up by it into a rigid impassable frontier. Hundreds of thousands of families and millions of people are being forced to live in painful separation : wives and husbands and their children, and the closest friends cannot meet one another and even the exchange of letters and photos between them is also strictly forbidden. On our dear native soil of South Vietnam, the U.S. government has brought, contingent after contingent, hundreds of thousands of American troops and huge quantities of arms and ammunition to conduct a war of aggression of utmost atrocity against a people who ardently longs for independence, peace and national unity.

The more it clamours for "peaceful negotiations", the more troops the U.S. government has brought to South Vietnam. From 30,000 early this year, the strength of U.S. forces in South Vietnam has now reached 200,000 men and it is planned to increase to 400,000 by the end of 1966. The louder it advertizes for its "search for peace", the more heinous crimes the Johnson government is committing in South Vietnam. So many innocent children and sweet mothers whom the "golden thread and little needle" would have woven have been massacred by methods even more barbarous than in the Medieval times.

In execution of the Johnson government's "scorched earth" policy of "burn all, destroy all, kill all" the U.S. troops in South Vietnam have burned down whole villages and slaughtered en masse our dear ones and relatives. On December 12, 1965 in Tan Giang hamlet, Binh Dinh province, 50 of our compatriots mostly children, women and old people above 80 years of age were killed in the most atrocious manner : shot dead, decapitated or thrown in the flames.

In Kim Tai hamlet, An Nhon district, same province, on January 9, 1966 the U.S. raiders tied 32 persons mostly children, women and old people, shut them in a house and set fire on it. The U.S. aggressors killed our children when they were in their mother's wombs, when they had just seen the day, when they were sucking, when they were playing or going to school. The U.S. troops have even used poison gas and toxic chemicals as war means to kill people en masse and destroy our crops on a large scale in many South Vietnam provinces. In Ben Tre province alone, consecutive toxic sprays by American aircraft during December have resulted in more than 500,000 people affected, of whom 46,000 mostly women and children received serious injuries. 30 per cent of the rice in the earing period were stunted and hundreds of thousands of hectares of orchards and vegetable were destroyed by the chemicals. Not an hour has passed in our beloved South Vietnam without blood being shed and house being burned and this keeps increasing in intensity. The U.S. government is also spreading the flames of war to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, an independent and sovereign state, and expanding its war of aggression in Laos and carrying out repeated provocations against the Kingdom of Cambodia. It is in fact scheming to spread its war of aggression to the whole of Indo-China, menacing the life and peace of so many innocent people.

Dear American friends,

We South Vietnamese women, like the rest of our people, have a long tradition of ardent patriotism.

In face of foreign aggression and the massacre of our relatives and compatriots and the threat to our own liie and the life of our families, we have stood up and together with our husbands, sons, daughters and brothers, we have overcome all difficulties and hardships to defend our families and beloved native villages. We are determined to fight to the end together with the rest of our people in order to drive out the U.S. aggressors and achieve an independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral South Vietnam on the way toward peaceful reunification of the country. Only through this right path can the South Vietnamese women defend the life and happiness of their own and of their younger generations.

As wives who love their husbands and mothers who love their children, as people filled with profound humanity and love for peace and justice, you decidedly cannot remain indifferent at the feverish acts of troop increase and war expansion of the U.S. government in our country, acts which will unavoidably compel your husbands, sons and friends to serve as cannon-fodder for the warmongers. The mourning and suffering which the latter are sowing on our land is also the mourning and suffering for the United States and American women.

Let us join our efforts to demand that the U.S. government stop immediately its barbarous acts, end at once its dirty war of aggression in South Vietnam and let the South Vietnamese people decide their own destiny by themselves.

Let us join our efforts to demand innocent American youths will not have to die a useless death in South Vietnam. Let us join our efforts so that the money gained by the sweat of labour of the American people would not be burned daily in the hotbed of the U.S. unjust war in South Vietnam. We are firmly convinced that whatever repressive actions the warmongers may take

they can never curb the movement of the American women and people because truth cannot be vanquished and more and more people in the United States and the world have seen the truth in South Vietnam. The more it broadens its war of aggression, the more the U.S. government will have to increase the war budget which cannot fail to affect the life of ordinary people in the United States. We are certain that with your time-honoured tradition of struggle you and the entire American people will take more resolute actions to defend equity, justice and your legitimate rights and interests.

On the occasion of March 8th, Day of united struggle of women in the world, and also the 5th founding anniversary of the South Vietnam Liberation Women's Union, we South Vietnamese women feel all the more determined together with the entire South Vietnamese people to fight to the end to chase away the U.S. aggressors, liberate South Vietnam and reunify the country in order to bring back peace and happiness to our home land.

The struggle of the women and the entire people of South Vietnam which enjoys the co-ordination of the American women and people will surely defeat the U.S. warmongers' scheme of war intensification and extension, making an important contribution to the defence of world peace.

On behalf of all women of South Vietnam we wish to convey to all American mothers and women and the entire progressive people of America our cordial and friendly greetings.

We wish you and your families the best of luck and happiness.

South Vietnam February 10, 1966

The South Vietnam Liberation Women's Union

1961-1966

FIVE YEARS OF VICTORIES OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE WOMEN

The South Vietnamese women have made a remarkable contribution to the sacred war of resistance of the entire people, in the 9 years of war against the French colonialists as well as during the past 11 years of struggle against the US imperialist aggressors and their stooges.

Founded on March 8, 1961, the South Vietnam Liberation Women's Union has rallied its immense forces and promoted its patriotic activities in all spheres.

A member of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation, and thanks to the latter's correct political line and judicious advices, the Liberation Women's Union like all women in South Vietnam, has gradually grown up in all fields and has recorded brilliant successes in both political and armed struggles, in the agitation work among the enemy troops, as well as in production, cultural, medical and educational work, thus actively contributing to the building of the liberated area and the supply to the frontline.

In most cases, particularly in the political struggle which bears a profound content coupled with varied forms, the South Vietnamese women can be proud of their shock brigade role with the largest force among the population.

In developing the tradition of heroic and indomitable struggle of the people and of their own, the South Vietnamese women have tirelessly held huge meetings or marches into townships or cities to wage face-to-face struggles against the US aggressors and the puppet administration. Many of them have used their bodies to obstruct enemy guns or bar the way to US tanks and aircraft, preventing the enemy from continuing their raid. Over the past five years, they have launched more than 218,850 political struggles, big or small, drawing more than 25,800,000 participants against the barbarities perpetrated by the US aggressors and their agents, such as toxic chemical sprays, use of poison gas, raiding operations, house-burnings, plunders, rapes, herding of people into "strategic hamlets", forcible enrolment, confiscations, measures of pauperisation and depravation of South Vietnamese youth and people etc... The unarmed demonstrations, animated with a strong combativity, and drawing each 30,000, 40,000 or even 100,000 participants resolved to march forward in defiance of the enemy's guns and repression, forced the enemy to retreat in fright.

Mme Nguyen Thi Ut

Miss Ta Thi Kiêu

In big cities such as Saigon, My Tho, Can Tho, Da Nang... women workers, toiling people, small traders, girl students and pupils, women office employees and Buddhist believers... have taken part en masse in work stoppage, large-scale market and school strikes to demand improvement of the people's living conditions, and democratic liberties and rights, an end to terrorist measures, overthrow of the Saigon puppet authorities and withdrawal of the US aggressors from South Vietnam.

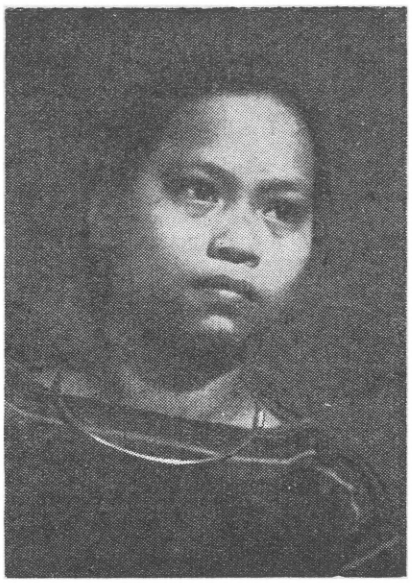
During their political struggles, the South Vietnamese women have not only laid bare the heinous crimes committed by the cruel and stubborn reactionaries, but also have show themselves skilful in their agitation work, in talking and persuading the puppet troops and administrative personnel into joining the ranks of the people and the Revolution. In 1964, there were over 42,000 desertions of puppet soldiers, more than 31,000 cases when the latter sympathized with or supported the women's struggles, and 24,000 families of puppet troops who demanded the return of their husbands and sons. In 1965, there were more than 80,000 cases of desertions, abandon of posts or mutiny followed by the killing of the most bloodthirsty officers and the crossing over to the people's side with arms. No doubt, the South Vietnamese people's liberation armed forces and women have greatly contributed to the disintegration and weakening of the enemy ranks.

Besides big successes recorded in the political struggle and agitation work among the puppet troops, the South Vietnam women have unhesitatingly engaged in emulation with men in annihilating the US aggressors and their stooges to defend their villages and ricefields. The guerilla forces count tens of thousands of women who have taken part in the armed struggles, making use of their intelligence, courage and energy to mount attacks on enemy posts, capture puppet soldiers and seize their weapons to arm themselves, such as Liberation Army Heroines Ta Thi Kieu, 27, and Nguyen Thi Ut, a mother of six children, who have assaulted the enemy on many occasions with complete successes.

Many teen aged girls also managed to kill enemy troops and capture their arms and ammunition.

The South Vietnamese women have been most active in demolishing

Mme Ami Doan
Vice-President of the Autonomous Nationalities' Movement in the High Plateaus.



Miss Rochom Ban
Member of the Autonomous Nationalities' Movement in the High Plateaus.

"strategic hamlets", making booby and bamboo spike traps, producing primitive arms, building their villages and fighting unflinchingly and have victoriously countered the enemy raids and encroachments beside taking part in the supply of food and weapons to the front, in the evacuation and tending of the wounded. Numerous mothers of fighters with their tireless activities in all localities, have vividly typified the people's deep love for the liberation fighters. They are splendid manifestations of endurance and determination to overcome difficulties, of the noble spirit of sacrifices and the lofty qualities of the Vietnamese mothers who are stirred by the same love for their Motherland and people.

The South Vietnamese women have also contributed to ensuring effectively public order and security in the villages. Worthy of note is that the young girls have themselves played an active part in mounting guard giving information or ensuring liaison work.

Concerning the booting of the production of rice and other food crops, the development of livestock breeding, the organization of mutual aid and cooperation in farm work etc.. the South

Vietnamese women constitute a principal force, capable of assuming heavy jobs in replacement of the men going to the front. The liberated zone in South Vietnam — which accounts for four fifths of its territory — by successfully developing its production in all fields has gradually improved the people's living conditions and adequately satisfied the resistance's increasing requirements in food. This splendid result is for a major part due to the women's persistent work.

In many regions situated near enemy posts, subject to continuous shellings and repeated noxious chemical sprays, plunder and most violent raids, the South Vietnamese women, first of all, the women farmers, joined both the armed struggle to annihilate the enemy and the political struggle to put an end to their criminal acts and force the enemy to pay compensations for the losses in lives and property while persistently sticking to their land, their gardens and their fields in order to continue their tillage and animal husbandry, thus making active contributions to the triumph of the resistance.

In the towns and regions still under the enemy control, the women play a foremost role in the mass struggle which is gaining in strength and scope with every passing day. In the liberated zone, they contributed manpower, money and materials to the development of public health, cultural, educational and information activities. Together with the rest of the people, they eagerly take part in the building and reinforcement of the liberated zone to give it a more joyous face and a more solid defence day by day, so that it may serve as the rear of a protracted struggle till final victory.

Greatly concern for the women's movement, the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation has conferred an Iron Fort Order, First Class, on the South Vietnam Liberation Women's Union, and the Vietnamese People's Revolutionary Party has also conferred on it the glorious title of "Heroism, Staunchness, Fidelity, Devotion" Another great honour: From its ranks have emerged 112 elite fighters who have been decorated with Liberation Orders, Exploit Orders and Military Orders, among them two heroines of the Liberation Army.

Thousands of women cadres with excellent virtues and capabilities have been appointed to leading posts at all levels from the village, district, province, region to central organisations. Others, who have grown in the fierce armed struggle of the people and are endowed with rich experiences, have taken part in the command of the armed forces at all levels. Mme Nguyen Thi Dinh, President of the Union and Deputy-Commander of the South Vietnam Liberation Armed Forces, is a really glorious title for the women of South Vietnam and of Vietnam as a whole.

On the international plane, the South Vietnamese women have sent their delegations to attend numerous international conferences and pay important visits to different countries, thus contributing to making the people and women of the world understand better the South Vietnam situation and winning the sympathy and increasing support from the progressive women and people.

* * *

The past five years are five years of fights, trials and sacrifices, and also five years of glorious victories of the South Vietnamese women and people. In the great struggle of our people against enemies of utmost ferocity — the US aggressors and their henchmen — the South Vietnamese women have not only made meritorious contributions to the Resistance, but also participated in the movement of solidarity and struggle of the world's women and greatly stimulated their sisters in Asia, Africa and Latin America now fighting for the real independence and liberty of their countries.

The more serious their defeats, the more frenzied the US imperialists become and they have dispatched hundreds of thousands of troops of the US and its satellites and large quantities of modern arms to South Vietnam to intensify and widen their war aggression, piling up their crimes against the women, children and other people there.

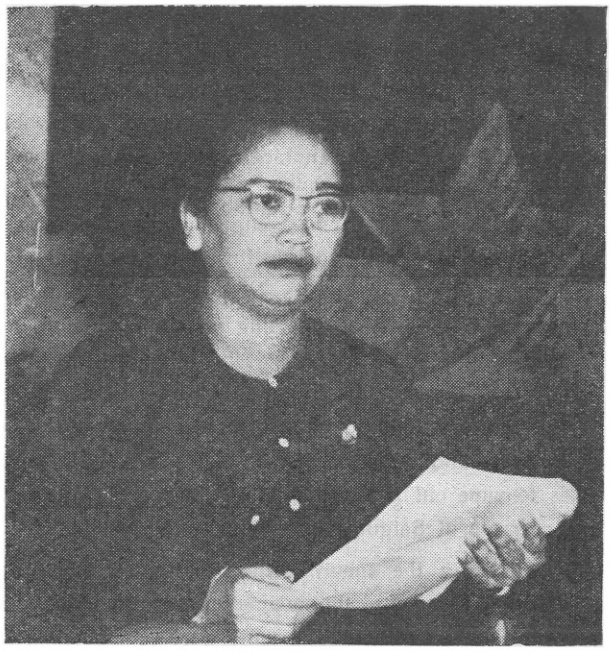
Animated by profound patriotism and an unquenchable hatred for the aggressors and the traitors, armed with the traditional spirit of dauntless struggle of their people, determined to wage a persistent fight full of sacrifices until final victory, endowed with valuable experiences accumulated during the political and armed struggles combined with the agitation work among the enemy troops and enjoying the unreserved support of their 17 million brothers and sisters in North Vietnam and the increasing and more resolute support of the powerful socialist camp and of hundreds of millions of women and people in the world, including the progressive women and people of America, the South Vietnamese women are fully convinced that by enhancing their solidarity with and fighting beside their people with ever increasing ardour, they will undoubtedly succeed in driving the US imperialists out of South Vietnam, liberating their sacred land, realizing the independence, democracy, peace and neutrality of South Vietnam with a view to peacefully reunifying their Fatherland.

The Executive Committee
of the South Vietnam Liberation
Women's Union.

SUMMARIZED BIOGRAPHY of Mme NGUYEN THI DINH

President
of the South Vietnam Liberation Women's Union

Deputy-Commander
of the Liberation Armed Forces of South Vietnam



Mme Nguyen Thi Dinh

Forty five years old, Mme Nguyen Thi Dinh is also called Ba Dinh or Bay Nhut. Her native village, Luong Hoa, many times occupied and re-occupied from the enemy, is now part of the liberated area of Giong Trom district, Ben Tre province, in Central Nam Bo (South Vietnam proper).

Thanks to the education of a patriotic family and particularly to the influence exerted on her by her brother who had taken part in the 1930 events, she devoted herself to the Revolution when still very young. During the last years of the Popular Front in Vietnam, she had the honour to militate officially within the ranks of the revolutionary organization. The movement being on the decline, the ruling classes, betraying their commitments, took violent actions against the Popular Front and repressed most ruthlessly the Vietnamese revolutionaries. Nguyen Thi Dinh was jailed for three years in the Ba Ra prison, near the Cambodian frontier. She was painfully torn away from her only son then one year old, while her husband, arrested before her, was tortured to death in a jail on Poulo Condor island.

Released only in 1943, she devoted herself entirely to new struggles against the crimes of the imperialists to avenge her husband and the misfortuness of her people. She again contacted the revolutionary organization, carried out strenuous underground activities and made all-out efforts to contribute to the preparations for the successful uprising of August 1945 in her native province.

Since then and during the war of resistance against the French colonialists, she worked in the women's organization, the Lien Viet Front (National United Front of Vietnam) and assumed important responsibilities in Ben Tre province. Situated in a delta region and raided on innumerable occasions, the heroic province, however, did not yield to the enemy. The responsible militants obstinately maintained close contact with the population, set up armed and political forces and lanched attacks against the enemy. Thanks to their devotion, the resistance won success in many localities.

As a member of the leading organ of the province, Nguyen Thi Dinh lived amidst the population, sharing their weal and woe, and constantly endeavouring to carry out well the directives and tasks entrusted by her higher levels. At the beginning of 1946, to obtain weapons necessary to the setting up of fighting units, she was ordered to cross the enemy lines and renew contact with the Resistance and Administrative Committee of South Vietnam. Back to Central Nam Bo from Trung Bo (Central Vietnam) she brought with her dozens of tons of weapons for the newly created armed units.

In 1954, after peace was restored, Nguyen Thi Dinh stayed among her compatriots in the province, striving to make the Geneva Agreements respected there. But the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen scrapped these agreements immediately after their signature. As runs a Vietnamese saying, **"the tree inhales quietude but the wind is infatuated in blowing"**. To the legitimate aspirations for peace of the people of South Vietnam, the Yankees and their flunkeys replied with bayonets, guillotines and all sorts of fascist torture, massacring the former resistance members and other patriots who had no means of defense.

They schemed to drown South Vietnam in blood and to turn the southern half of our country into a military base and newtype colony of the Yankees. However, the population of South Vietnam worthy of the title of **"Iron Fort"** of the Fatherland, refused to bow before the enemy. From 1955-1956 onwards, the boiling political struggle, sprung from the masses grew like a flame that nothing could extinguish.

In her province, Nguyen Thi Dinh who, like the other revolutionnaries, was hunted by the enemy, had to live constantly on the move, sleep in the open air and endure thousands of hard trials to escape repression. For all these

harships, she succeeded in galvanizing the revolutionary energy of the masses and organizing their forces to counter-attack the enemy.

In 1960, the dike built by the reactionary forces to dam the revolution crumbled. In face of the increased repression by the enemy, the population of South Vietnam rose up, millions as one man, to avenge the compatriots massacred by the enemy and to fight for freedom. Carrying out the orders from her superiors, Nguyen Thi Dinh and her organization initiated an uppising en masse of the rural population of Ben Tre. She led this great revolutionary task to brilliant success. Simultaneously, all the villages in the province rose up in insurrection at the sounds of drum beats and with the mettle of a flood breaking the dikes to wipe out in the main the machine of oppression and coercion of Saigon in the countryside.

By attacking the enemy with primitive weapons and ingenious stratagems, the population captured fire-arms with which the first liberation units were equipped.

The victorious uprisings in the province of Ben Tre and in other localities opened a new stage : the popular struggle from now on was carried out simultaneously on two fronts, political and military. This led to the proclamation on December 20, 1960, of the birth of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation. Nguyen Thi Dinh was one of the founders of the provincial organization of the NFL, especially charged with military affairs.

Since then, she has taken an active part in guiding the resistance against U.S. aggression for national salvation under the leadership of the Central Committee of the NFL. At present she holds several high posts : President of the South Vietnam Liberation Women's Union, Presidium member of the NFL Central Committee and Deputy-Commander of the Liberation Armed Forces of South Vietnam.

The profound grief at the devastation of her Fatherland by the enemy and the eager will to avenge her husband have led Nguyen Thi Dinh, simple woman of South Vietnam like millions of others, to wage a life and death struggle against the enemy and remain indefectibly loyal to the revolutionary cause. Tempered and grown in the crucible of the grandiose struggle of her people, Nguyen Thi Dinh is one of the eminent fighters of the Liberation Army and a staunch guardian of the heroic and indomitable traditions of Vietnam.

ON THE SO-CALLED "PEACE CAMPAIGN" OF THE JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION

STATEMENT

OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOUTH VIETNAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

The Central Committee of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation on January 5, 1966 made public a statement on the US preparations for further intensification of its war of aggression in South Vietnam and further expansion of its war of destruction against North Vietnam.

Follow large excerpts of this statement :

1. The more the US imperialists prattle about "unconditional peaceful discussions" the more feverishly they step up and expand the war, the more crimes they perpetrate against the Vietnamese people and the more they threaten peace and security in Asia and the world.

"It is well-known fact that during the recent past, whenever they talked "peace", the US ruling circles also introduced larges numbers of aggressive troops and weapons into South Vietnam.

"At the same time, while unceasingly prattling about "unconditional discussions", the US ruling circles have intensified their "war of extermination" in South Vietnam to the fiercest degree ever known so far.

"It is also while they jabbered about "unconditional discussions" that the US imperialists frantically "escalated" in North Vietnam.

"On the other hand, they have been endeavouring to knock together their flunkeys in Thailand, Laos and South Vietnam, seeking ways and means to invade Central and Lower Laos with the aim of turning these regions into bridgeheads joining South Vietnam and Thailand to oppose the patriotic war conducted by the South Vietnamese people and the people in Laos and to wreck the independence and sabotage the neutrality of Cambodia.

"At present, while pushing ahead their deceiful "peace" campaign and making noisy propaganda about their "suspension of bombing raids on North Vietnam", the US ruling circles are declaring that they will do everthing needed to win their war of aggression in South Vietnam.

"They are zealously calling on their allied countries in the N.A.T.O. aggressive bloc to take part in the intensification and expansion of the war in Vietnam.

"In South Vietnam, the Yankees are a pirate who breaks into another's house and commits massacre and plunder ; they are being chased out, they must go and have no right to any claim... if they do not want to be completely

wiped out. The South Vietnamese people and their National Front for Liberation are determined not to allow the US government to make the cessation of its air raids on North Vietnam a condition to urge the South Vietnamese people to lay down their weapons and recognize the existence of nearly 200,000 American aggressors and hundreds of US military bases on their territory.

"The so-called "peace-efforts", "unconditional discussions" of the US imperialists are actually aimed at forcing the South Vietnamese people to lay down their arms and accept the US occupation of South Vietnam, perpetuating the division of Vietnam, and completely sabotaging the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam.

2. The South Vietnamese people are resolved to fight to the end to defeat the aggressive war of the US imperialists, liberate South Vietnam, defend the North, with a view to reunifying the Fatherland, thus contributing to the defence of peace and security in Indo-China, Asia and the world.

"The South Vietnamese people and National Front for Liberation who ardently cherish peace, are well conscious that so long as the US imperialists' aggressive war in South Vietnam is not yet completely defeated, their aggressive design against our Fatherland not yet smashed, and the South Vietnamese people have not yet won complete independence, there can be no real peace in Vietnam and the peace in Indo-China and Asia continues to be jeopardized.

"At present, as the aggressive aim of the cruel enemy of the South Vietnamese people has not changed, the only correct way to continue leading the South Vietnamese people to victory remains the path of "determination to fight and to win", of smashing the enemy so as to realize their sacred aspirations which are "independence, democracy, peace, neutrality with a view to national reunification". That is also the only path to make active contributions to the defence of peace in Indo-China, Asia and the world. No violence nor machiavellian manœuvre of the US imperialists can deviate the South Vietnamese people from that just path.

So long as the US imperialists have not yet put an end to their aggression, withdrawn all the troops and weapons of the US and its satellites from South Vietnam, have not yet abolished all their military bases there, have not yet recognized the national rights of the South Vietnamese people namely independence, peace, democracy, neutrality and national reunification and still refuse to let the South Vietnamese people settle their affairs by themselves, the 14 million South Vietnamese people will hold their guns firmly and fight resolutely, even if they are to fight for 10 years, 20 years or even longer, and however big the hardships and sacrifices...

"The most "honourable" way reserved for them at present is quickly to withdraw from South Vietnam, stop immediately, unconditionally and definitively their bombing raids on North Vietnam and leave the Vietnamese and Indo-Chinese peoples alone. The South Vietnamese people will spare no effort and will certainly fulfil most satisfactorily their sacred duty toward the Fatherland, that is to "liberate the South and defend the North"

3. The South Vietnam National Front for Liberation calls on all peace-loving and progressive forces in the world to take more resolute actions to check the US scheme of war intensification and expansion.

"The National Front for Liberation and people of South Vietnam call on all forces all over the world who cherish peace, independence, democracy and progress to make more efforts with the aim of preventing the new military adventure of the US imperialists, to remain alert and lay bare and smash all their peace swindles and to demand that the US imperialists, if they sincerely desire peace, prove it by their practical deeds, namely to stop all military operations and air raids to massacre the South Vietnamese people, to withdraw all their troops from South Vietnam, dismantly all military bases there, stop definitively and unconditionally all air raids on the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, respect the 1954 Geneva Agreements and let the South Vietnamese people settle their internal affairs by themselves.

"The South Vietnam National Front for Liberation calls on the American people to heighten their vigilance before all manœuvres of the US government to hide and distort the truth and deceive them about their aggressive policy in Vietnam, about the just resistance war of the South Vietnamese people. Let our American friends step up more vigorously their movement of struggle to defend the honour of the United States, oppose the policy to send American youths to die a senseless death in Vietnam and protest against all mobilization of manpower and material resources of the American people to throw into the dirty war in South Vietnam, thus consolidating further the friendship between the people of South Vietnam and America who are endowed with a traditional love for peace, justice and freedom.

The National Front for Liberation and people of South Vietnam sincerely thank their friends in all the five continents who have wholeheartedly given both moral and material support to their resistance war for national salvation, and call for a more active and resolute assistance with a view to increasing the strength of the South Vietnamese people to defeat the aggressive war of the US imperialists and their henchmen.

INCOMPETENCY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION TO SOLVE VIETNAM'S AFFAIRS

On January 31, 1966 immediately after ordering the resumption of the bombing in North Vietnam, the Johnson administration brought the Vietnam issue to the U.N. Security Council with the obvious aim of making it an instrument of pressure to force our people to agree to "negotiate" on the U.S. terms.

To unmask a scheme which was, the least one can say, part of the White House's customary duplicity, the spokesman of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation on February 2, 1966, issued a statement excerpts of which are given below. (Sub-titles are from the Editorial Board).

ARROGANT AND MACHIAVELLIAN MOVE

This is an arrogant and machiavellian move of the U.S. imperialists. By resuming its air raids against North Vietnam after failing in their "peace efforts" farce, the U.S. imperialists once again crudely challenged the Vietnamese people and the whole peace and justice-loving mankind. Yet, they tried to gloss over

their unjust act by asking the convening of the U.N. Security Council, attempting to use this organization in the hope of peddling their fallacious "goodwill for peace", slandering the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and distorting the just struggle for national salvation of the South Vietnamese people with a view to carrying out their schemes and acts of increasing and widening the war.

DOOMED TO FAILURE

Decidedly the U.S. imperialists cannot use the U.N. Security Council to cover the truth and justify their schemes and acts of aggression in South Vietnam, still less to negate the South Vietnamese people's right to self-determination and force them into submission.

INCOMPETENCY OF THE U.N.O.

The South Vietnam National Front for Liberation solemnly declares that the United Nations has no right at all to decide problems of the South Vietnamese people. The Front will consider all decisions of the U.N. Security Council on Vietnam as null and void and as an act of encroachment of the principles of independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Vietnam which were guaranteed by the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam.

U.S. UNAVOIDABLE DEFEAT

Should the U.S. imperialists refuse to abandon their aggressive ambition, they are doomed to complete and most ignominious failure, whatever barbarous and perfidious manœuvres they may resort to.

JOHNSON'S NOISY "PEACE OFFENSIVE": a big diplomatic plot for war extension

World public opinion continues to unmask Johnson's "peace" swindle and energetically denounces the U.S. aggressive war in Vietnam.

Afro-Asian opinion

At a press conference held in Phnom Penh on January 21, 1966, laying bare the "peace" hoax of the Johnson administration, Cambodian Head of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk pointed out :

"While waving the olive branch, the Americans voted new war budgets and ascended in their escalation with a view to destroying Vietnam. They landed more reinforcements in order to destroy Vietnam completely. They threatened to use atomic weapons to pulverize China. They even wanted to destroy Cambodia. Wasn't it the premise of peace ?"

He asked how there could be any "peace" to talk about since the American had violated the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam.

The 1954 Geneva Agreements on Vietnam told the Vietnamese that "Your house belongs to you entirely and nobody else should enter your house. The Americans have now entered the house of the Vietnamese."

The Prince stressed that "in such circumstances, it was necessary to force the thief to leave the house of the Vietnamese."

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Under the title "**US words clash with US deeds in the Vietnam problem**", the Philippine paper "**Graphic**" in its issue of January 12, 1966 pointed out : "The war escalation of the United States is carried out along with its statements of peace".

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Karjimnina Veii, representative of the South-West Africa National Union in Cairo, said :

"What the 'peace offensive' of the US imperialists aims at is a moment of respite to ward off telling blows dealt them by the Vietnamese people and to escalade further their dirty war."

Some comments by the European press.

"Jonhson's 'peace offensive' has exploded like a fire-works. Ii is a sincere peace offensive or an ultimate psychological scheme before unleashing a decisive extention of the Vietnam conflict, even till China ?

In reality, the negotiation proposed by the United States aim at maintaining two Vietnams".

Paris Jour, December 31, 1965

"While the US 'peace offensive' went on, American troops used toxic gas to kill South Vietnamese guerillas. The use of gas as a military means is so shocking that it's inconceivable that the Americans negotiate in this manner. Without any doubt, people cannot believe in any desire of peace from the United States".

Dagens Nyheter (Swedish paper), January 3, 1966.

American opinion

On the "peace conditions" in Vietnam brazenly put forth by Secretary of State Dean Rusk, American Journalist Walter Lippman wrote :

"President Johnson, Dean Rusk and McNamara have repeated over and again that we don't fight for the establishment of any permanent military base in South Vietnam. How then can we explain the 'great concern' on our part ? Because Mr Rusk has posed as condition for our withdrawal from Vietnam the existence of a stable and secure government in Saigon and not by means of negotiations with the Viet Cong who are controlling more than half of the territory. This condition in fact means that we will never withdraw from Vietnam."

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"Nobody would fall dupe of the big publicity given to the present 'temporary suspenseion' of the bombing of North Vietnam. This 'pause' will enable US imperialism and its various agents and political brokers to 'regain their force'.

"The current 'pause' is nothing but a crude piece of war blackmail — much like the ransom note of the kidnapper who demands that he be paid off on threat of doing away with his victim. The 'pay-off' in this case is nothing less than the 'right' of the U.S. to occupy South Vietnam while the South Vietnamese people are required to end their resistance. It includes the perpetuation of the division of Vietnam and its use by the U.S. as a base of aggression against other Asian peoples, first of all China.

"This is the purpose for which Washington has incessantly extended its war acts. This is also the aim of all of its schemes of 'peace' demagogy and of its cynical appeal for 'unconditional discussions', which in fact imply the capitulation of the Vietnamese people.

"That is the only aim of the recent 'bomb pause' trickery".

Challenge, organ of the U.S. Progressive Labour Party, issue of January 4, 1966.

IN SOUTH VIETNAM

LIBERATION ARMED FORCES' VICTORIES SINCE EARLY THIS YEAR

1966 began with a series of victories of the Liberation Army and people of South Vietnam.

Follow details of some battles particularly disastrous for the American aggressors, the mercenary troops from U.S. satellites and the Saigon puppet army during the first 20 days of January.

1. ENEMY LOSSES IN DUC HOA

On January 2, 1966, elements of the U.S. 173rd airborne brigade and Australian and New Zealand mercenaries, divided into many detachments, raided Hoa Khanh village, Duc Hoa district. The raiders were fiercely intercepted by the liberation fighters and guerillas. All their attacks were smashed, and more than 300 U.S. and satellite soldiers, including 2 high-ranking officers, were put out of action. The patriotic forces also shot down 7 aircraft, among them one L-19 reconnaissance plane, two fighter planes and four HU-1A helicopters, and captured a large quantity of weapons, including 7 machine-guns.

2. VICTORIOUS COUNTER-ATTACKS IN CU CHI

From January 8 to 19, the biggest raid to date was conducted by the enemy against the liberated areas in the northern part of Cu Chi district (Gia Dinh province) in an attempt to break the encirclement of Saigon by the liberation armed forces.

The raiding operation, involving 8,000 American soldiers and Australian, New Zealand and Pak Jung Hi mercenaries, and supported by two battalions of heavy artillery, two regiments of 600 tanks and armoured cars and 200 aircraft of various types, was directed against Phu My Hung, Phu An, Nhon Dong, An Nhon Tay, Nhuan Duc, and Duc Hiep villages, close to many roads and various U.S. garrisons.

Prior to the raid, to avoid all unpleasant surprise, the enemy air force and artillery had for 20 days on end intensively bombed and shelled the areas, under their raiding plan. At 6 A.m. on January 8, the U.S. and Australian troops broke into the said villages. Applying the "scorched earth" policy in the purest tradition of the colonial conquest, the enemy burned all destroyed all and killed all they met on their way. They massacred 100 civilians, mostly women and children, sprayed toxic gas into the people's air-raid shelters, reduced to ashes 1,500 houses and 10,000 gia" (about 21 tons) of paddy, killed 200 draught animals and thousands of other domestic animals, destroyed all the people's farm tools and household utensils.

In co-ordination with the people, the liberation armed forces intercepted the raiders, fought back all their attacks and inflicted on them extremely heavy losses.

The operation wound up on January 19 with the retreat of the enemy troops who failed to attain any of their assigned aims. ,

Thus, in 12 days of counter-attacks, the army and people in Cu Chi district fought 200 battles and inflicted on the enemy the following losses :

— 1,318 enemy soldiers put out of action, of them 1,076 American killed and 213 others wounded, many American soldiers captured ;

— 48 military vehicles, one 105mm and one 106mm artillery pieces and eight 81mm mortars destroyed ;

— 29 aircraft, mostly helicopters shot down and 60 others damaged ;

— A large quantity of arms, ammunition and military equipment captured.

3. ATTACK AGAINST THIEN AN

The liberation armed forces on the night of January 18, 1966 violently attacked the enemy defence line north of Quang Ngai provincial capital, stretching from Quan Com to Thien An mountain and comprising many fortified positions.

The liberation fighters began to climb the slope of Thien An mountain and suddenly opend fire on the fortifications of the enemy in the outer perimeter and overran them. After 10 minutes' fighting, they had the situation under complete control.

Meanwhile, the patriotic forces attacked the An Binh "strategic hamlet" and slammed intense mortar fire on other enemy positions in the provincial capital, causing heavy losses to the enemy.

After these head-on blows, the liberation armed forces broke through the said enemy defence line, completely wiped out a company and a squad of regulars of the puppet army and decimated two civil guards platoons and a militia platoon. They also captured a large number of arms, ammunition and military equipment.

4. A COMPANY OF PAK JUNG HI MERCENARIES COMPLETELY WIPED OUT

The Pak Jung Hi mercenary troops stationed at Huong Hill on January 20, 1966 conducted a raid against Thanh Phu and Phu Nhiem areas, Tuy Hoa district, Phu Yen province (Central Vietnam).

Resolved to punish the cruel Pak Jung Hi mercenaries, the army and people in Phu Yen intercepted the raiders, completely wiped out a company and decimated a number of other units.

It is clear that the victories recorded by the South Vietnam army and people since early this year show that the South Vietnamese people are fully capable of defeating the aggressive war of the U.S. imperialists whether the latter increase the expeditionary corps of the U.S. and its satellites to 300,000 or 400,000 or more.

NEW ATROCITIES OF THE PAK JUNG HI MERCENARIES IN SOUTH VIETNAM

On orders from the U.S. aggressors, the Pak Jung Hi mercenary troops, in a raid against Tan Giang hamlet (Binh Dinh province) on December 22, 1965, savagely massacred 50 civilians including 22 children below twelve, 22 women (3 of them with child) and 6 old persons above 70.

That day, after firing more than 500 shells on the hamlet, two companies of Pak Jung Hi mercenaries broke into it and carried out the slogan of "burn all, destroy all and kill all".

The raiders resorted to bestial measures of massacre such as to shoot or stab to death women after taking turns in raping them, behead the victims, cut their legs, bury them alive or break the skulls of children before throwing them to the fire.

Many among the 21 families victims of the massacre had all their members killed. Besides, before withdrawing, the bloodthirsty devils also reduced to ashes all the people's houses in the area and shelled the already devastated village to destroy all the life there.

These are new extremely barbarous crimes perpetrated by the Pak Jung Hi mercenaries against the South Vietnamese population following numerous others committed by the U.S. aggressors and their stooges.

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